

The Lord of The Sabbath Mark 2:23-28
If you ever want to see religious
upstanding people from various
sects get into a knock down drag
- out brawl, here's what you do.
Gather them all up into a room and
say the word Sabbath, discuss,
exit the room crack the door and
watch. Oh man. This is kind of what's
going on with Jesus here. A Sabbath
discussion is being started by these
Pharisees and Jesus is right in the middle
of it. What is said is not only candid
truth concerning Sabbath teaching but
truth concerning all our spiritual observances.

I. The Painted Accusation - In this
continuing topic of controversy, the Phar
isees were quick to pick up on another seeming
violation of the Law by Jesus. vs 24 Barage of question

A. The Blessing of the Sabbath - The
Sabbath has its origins at the first week
of creation. We know that God rested on the
seventh day and sanctified it. In Exodus we
see that it was sanctified as a day of rest Ex 23:12
~~also~~ of commandment Le 23:3. A day of Blessing

B. The Band of the Sabbath - a day band
because the Sabbath keeping was also a
sign of covenant between God & Israel Ex 31:13
Just as a wedding band is a token of

marriage so was the Sabbath to children of Israel.

C. The Burden of the Sabbath - But over centuries that burden became a chain. Like much of O.T. Law, the Sabbath had become covered over in commentaries and explanation, rules and regulations. The Pharisees had developed 39 regulations for proper keeping of Sabbath. 4 had to do with harvesting. Deut 23:24-25 4 of 39

II. The Perceptive Answer - It is amazing how Jesus answers a question with a question that strikes to the heart of the Pharisees. V 59, 19, 25, 34

A. A Biblical Problem - Notice "I have ye not read." This was to the Pharisees that had memorized most of the O.T. Law. Yet with all their OT knowledge, they missed the point. They were placing all the weight of argument on the interpretations of men when it is the word of God that has the answer not the traditions of men. Jesus dealt a Devil in same fashion in temple when it is written

B. A Biblical Precedence - Account in 1 Samuel 21. David anointed King, chased by Saul. His men hungry. Came to Taberah and asked for common bread, none was given. Show bread. Lev 24 Clearly wrong

1) Exodus 23:12 Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.

2) Leviticus 23:3 Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings.

3) Exodus 31:13 Speak thou also unto the children of Israel, saying, Verily my sabbaths ye shall keep: for it is a sign between me and you throughout your generations; that ye may know that I am the LORD that doth sanctify you.

4) Deuteronomy 23:24-25 When thou comest into thy neighbour's vineyard, then thou mayest eat grapes thy fill at thine own pleasure; but thou shalt not put any in thy vessel. When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn.

5) 4 of those 39 rules prohibited these: one, reaping; two, winnowing, which is simply blowing away the chaff of the corn; three, threshing, which is separating out the grain by beating it; and then fourth, preparing a meal. The sabbath itself had become a symbol of a suffocating religious bondage that was squeezing any life that was in these people, and effectively it was robbing them of their joy in God as individuals, as families and as a whole nation.

yet David ate along w/ them + David not rebuked by God! Here disciples clearly Right (Deut 23) and rebuked by Pharisees. The priests were far more concerned with themselves of God's anger than order of tabernacle, Pharisees ^{did} eat

III. The Plain Application - Jesus in a brief concise sentence summarizes the Biblical precedence by saying
vs 27

A. The Reason of Blessing - Remember the Pharisees question. The tense in imperfects a language of Question. Jesus response was the same. Over and over The Sabbath was made... Some rabbis thought that man was actually made to keep Sabbath. But Jesus refutes that by implying that the Sabbath was never intended to prohibit works of necessity, deeds of mercy + kindness + love + grace. It was for rest + worship + enjoy God!

B. The Reversal to Bondage - These legalist Pharisees had turned or reversed this blessing into a bondage that was squeezing the life and joy of God out of them. Every spiritual practice we practice should be screened through this; if Bible reading is a burden then it has ~~lost~~ from being the blessing that it ought. our perspective is wrong. Prayers, ^{giving} worship

IV. The Preeminent Authority of
The the pinnacle of His orignenew
a breath-taking statement

A. The Claim of Christ - chn
affected these phrases have been
asking in all this controversy
Who do you think you are? Who can
forgive sins. Jesus said vs 28 Word
Lord = owner of Sabbath, One who possesses
and distributed things as he will. This same
word Lord used in OT to refer to God as Creator
Jesus is saying I am originator of Sabbath
+ owner who gave it for benefit and you are making it a burden

B. The Law of Love - To sum
up this whole scene, let us be reminded
that are spiritual exercise and practices
are to the end that we may love and
enjoy God and care ^{+ meet needs of} for others, and
not to rate ourselves on a spiritual
scale. Our religious practices and spiritual
ordinances are to point us and others to
God. The Sabbath was to help and bless
men not burden them.

V. Closing One Author writes 'The
shewbread was never so sacred as when
it was used to feed the starving men of David, The
Sabbath was never so sacred as when it was
used to help those who needed help. The final arbiter
in the use of things is love not law.